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On a new Genus of Dermaptera from India

By G. K. SRIVASTAVA, Calcutta

Family : LABIOIDEA

Sub-family : CARCINOPHORIDAE Super-family : CARCINOPHORINAE

Aborolabis gen. n.

Paralabis Burr (partim), 1915, J. R. mirc. Soc., 1915, p. 540.

Generic Description. d: Size medium, surface pilose. Head triangular, sutures distinct, caudal margin sinuate mesad. Antennae 16segmented(?), 1st segment equal to the combined length of 2nd, 3rd and 4th segments; 2nd small; 3rd long; 4th about half as long as 3rd and equal to 5th; rest long and cylindrical. Eyes smaller than genae. Pronotum quadrate, anterior margin and sides straight, gently widened posteriorly with posterior margin truncate or briefly rounded, median suture distinct. Meso-sternum rounded and meta-sternum truncate posteriorly. Tegmina absent or present as narrow lateral, ovate flaps on mesonotum. Wings absent. Legs with femora and tibiae banded with black, 1st tarsal segment almost as long as 2nd and 3rd segments together.

Abdomen gradually dilated from base to 7th tergite, surface punetate, sides of segments 6th to 9th acute, striate and carinate. Ultimate tergite strongly transverse, sparsely punctate, median suture distinct, posterior margin entire, sides rugose with a longitudinal fold. Penultimate sternite triangular, punctate with posterior margin truncate. Forceps with branches remote and dilated at base, trigonal, ridge present in basal one third only, then depressed and tapering towards apex with tip pointed, asymmetrical, right branch more curved than the left, inner margin crenulate. Genitalia with parameres three times longer than broad, gently dilated at about middle and narrowed towards apex, tip rounded, outer margin convex and inner margin at base armed with a triangular tooth almost equal to parameres in length with tip pointed and hooked; preputial sacs with longitudinal rows of chitinous teeth.

Q: Agrees with male in most characters except that the sides of abdominal segments rounded, almost smooth and devoid of longitudinal carina, ultimate tergite slightly narrowed apically. Penultimate sternite triangular with posterior margin obtuse. Forceps with branches contiguous or subcontiguous, straight, attenuate, apices pointed and crossing each other.

Remarks. The described genus falls under the 'Second Group—Psalides' of Burr (1915, p. 532) in having the parametes three times longer than broad but differs from all the genera included under that group by the presence of an inner triangular, acute tooth at the base of the parametes. On the basis of this character alone it can be even separated from all the known genera of the sub-family Carcinophorinae.

Type-species. Anisolabis pervicina Burr, 1913.

Aborolabis pervicina (Burr) comb. nov.

Anisolabis pervicina Burr, 1913, Rec. Indian Mus., 8 (2), p. 137.

Paralabis pervicina (Burr), 1915, J. R. micr. Soc., 1915, p. 540, pl. 12, fig. 3. Material examined. (i) 1♂, 2♀♀, Reg. Nos. 2198/19, 2188/19, 2210/19, Ind. Mus., Rotung, 1400 ft., 26, 28, 23.xii.11, under bark and rotten wood; (ii) 1♀ (nymph), Ind. Mus., Reg. No. 2435/19, Dibrugarh, N.E. Assam, 17-19.xi.11; (iii) 1♀, Ind. Mus., Reg. No. 2315/19, bank of Dhiong river below Pasighat, 16.xii.11; (iv) 1♂, 1♀, Ind. Mus., Reg. Nos. 8598/16, 8599/16, Assam-Bhutan Frontier, Mangaldai dist. N.E., Deshnoi river bed, 31.xii.10; (v) 1♂ (mentioned by Burr as ♂ nymph but it is an adult specimen), Ind. Mus., Reg. No. 2289/19, Puging, 3000 ft., . . . 11-12; (vi) 1♀, Ind. Mus., Reg. No. 2297/19, Sadiya, N.E. Assam, under bark, 26.xi.11; and (vii) 2♀♀ (nymphs), Ind. Mus., Reg. Nos. 2340/19, 2342/19, Kobo, 400 ft., under logs, 7.xii.12; Abor Exped.; all collected by Kemp excepting the ♂ with Reg. No. 2289/19, on the label of which is written in hand J. Coggin Brown after deleting Kemp's name; determined and quoted by Burr (1913) and deposited in the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

The \circlearrowleft specimen with Reg. No. 2198/19 has been designated by Burr as Nomotype. Only in three \circlearrowleft specimens with Reg. Nos. 2210/19, 2297/19 and 8599/16 the elytra are present as long oval flaps on either side of the mesonotum. The specimen with Reg. No. 2188/19 is a \circlearrowleft nymph since the wing rudiments are visible.

Remarks. Burr (1915, pl. 12, fig. 3) has figured the genitalia and the tooth at the base of the parameres has been shown with dotted lines

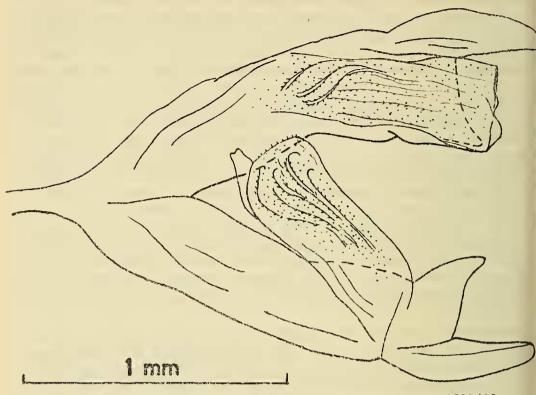


Fig. 1-Male genitalia of a specimen with Reg. No. 8598/16.

but he makes no mention of it while referring this species to the genus Paralabis Burr, 1915. The author has examined the genitalia of a \circlearrowleft with Reg. No. 8598/16 (Fig. 1). The tooth at the base of parameres is quite distinct.

The author is thankful to the Director, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, for providing facilities.

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Notes and Observations

ABERRATION OF DEUTERONOMOS EROSARIA SCHIFF.—On 4th October 1968 at Woking, Surrey, I caught in my mercury vapour light trap a male aberration of *D. erosaria* Schiff. in which the ground colour was normal, but the transverse lines on the forewings were reduced to a small triangular blotch just below the costa. On the hindwings there was no trace of the usual weakly marked transverse lines.—A. G. M. Batten Littledale, Cedar Road, Hook Heath, Woking, Surrey.